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National Library of Aruba celebrates 60 years with an exposition by renowned artist Gustave Nouel

Aruba's National Library will host an exposition by a native son of Aruba, artist Gustave Nouel, who has achieved international fame for his work, which hangs in over 100 museums and galleries around the world, as well as in the residences of the Dutch royal family.

Nouel, who has resided in Holland for many years, regularly visits his home island, participating in local expositions, and conducting classes to stimulate interest in art and painting. An exposition of Nouel's favorite works and some new paintings, as well as a collection from the philatelic department of Post Aruba N.V. in honor of "60 Years of Aruba's National Library," will open tomorrow evening.

Astrid Britten, Director of the Biblioteca Nacional, expressed her gratitude to Toyota Art Gallery and MUSA Art Café, represented by proprietor Angela Croes, for their cooperation in organizing this exposition.

Gustave Nouel (R) with his muse Angela Croes

The principal exposition of Gustave's paintings will be on display for 60 days in the Arubiana room of the Oranjestad library, and in the San Nicolas branch. For this exposition, the artist has chosen works which particularly depict various aspects of his homeland. His paintings can be viewed during regular library hours for the remainder of the exposition.

While on Aruba for the opening, Mr. Nouel has arranged to conduct a workshop at the Oranjestad Library on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, August 25, 26, and 27, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. It is possible to participate in a single workshop for 50 Aruban florins, or all three evenings for 110 Aruban florins.

Classes will consist of a maximum of 50 students. The work will be evaluated by a panel of established artists, and those demonstrating particular promise will be offered the opportunity to attend a Master Class, which will be conducted at the University of Aruba in September.

During the press conference at the library yesterday, it was also announced that Dr. Ing J. Huisman, President of Art Promotion International (API) will be on Aruba September 2 to deliver a lecture on Picasso.

This program will include a workshop for youngsters given by Dr. Huisman and Gustave Nouel focusing on the work of Picasso, with the cooperation of the Department of Education. Dr. Huisman is an instigator of a pioneer project of artistic and cultural exchange between the University of China and Aruba, and will also speak about this program.

In September, the library will host another information session for media and local artists to elaborate on how they can participate in an international art exchange being organized by API, Aruba's National Library, and the Department of Education, facilitated by Mirto Lacle, Aruban educator and scholar, who will be the coordinator general.

For more information and to register for next week's workshop with Gustave Nouel, contact Mena Erasmus at 582-1580.